



Forsyth Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Newsletter



Founded December 30, 1930

Upcoming Events

Feb 21-23 -- CQ World Wide 160 Meter Contest, SSB

Feb 22-23 -- North American QSO Party, RTTY

Feb 23-24 -- North Carolina QSO Party, <http://rars.org/ncqsoparty/>

March 7-8 -- North Carolina Section Convention (Charlotte Hamfest), Concord, North Carolina

April 19 -- Roanoke Division Convention, Raleigh, North Carolina

May 16-18 -- Dayton Hamvention -- Regional ARRL Centennial Event, Dayton, Ohio

NC QSO PARTY FEBRUARY 23rd – From 10 AM to 8 PM local (1500-0100Z) (From ARRL NC Newsletter)

Based on feedback, the NCQP organizers have made many exciting changes and additions – two mobile categories, both of which can operate mixed modes; a new digital category; and new awards, such as a “Worked Most Counties” and an emergency communications (EmCOMM) award, along with many other awards. Plan to put North Carolina on the air to the rest of the world on February 23rd, then attend the NCQP forum at RARSfest in April. You can see all the changes, updates and rules at the NC QSO Party’s website at www.ncqsoparty.org. Many thanks to Marty Young, W4MY, Marc Sullivan, W4MPS, and many others who are making the NC QSO Party one of the best state QSO parties.

Ham Radio Public Service: Pilot Mountain Payback

Jim Mansfield WA4NOT

Forsyth County ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Service) will provide radio communications support for the Pilot Mountain Payback marathon and half-marathon on Saturday, April 12, 2014 in Pilot Mountain State Park. Radio operators will be stationed with the event staff at four aid stations along the route and at the start / finish line. We’ll also provide a net control station.

Most net activity will occur between 0830 and 1300 hours, but the actual closing time for the net will depend on the speed of the slowest runner. Last year we secured the net around 1500.

Two-way radio is critical for this event, because most of the park has no cell phone coverage.

We’ll use 2-meter FM through the 145.47 repeater on Sauratown Mountain. To insure solid coverage, operators will need a minimum of a physical quarter-wave antenna, such as a mobile mag-mount, with their 5-watt HTs; a mobile unit with at least 10 watts output would be better. All Aid Station radio positions are reachable by car. A net control station either off-site (from home?) or joining KK4GAF at the Pilot Mountain summit is also needed. The various Aid Station (rest-stop) operators can secure when their respective race volunteers leave, but an NCS with cell phone capability is necessary until the Start-Finish line crew shuts down.

As of Saturday, February 8, WA4NOT, KK4GAF, KG4JWU, WA4ZKI and KC4WSK are on board with KG4ECI a possible. Two more operators are still needed

Please volunteer for, or get more information about, the activity by contacting Jim Mansfield, WA4NOT, by email at wa4not@arrrl.net

If you're interested in ARES, but not yet ready for a field activity, monitor the event between 0900 and 1200 on 145.47 to get a feel for directed nets used in public service and emergencies.

ARES Net Reports
Dan O'Leary KG4ECI
AEC/Net Manager
Forsyth County ARES

ARES Net Report for 12Dec2013

Net Control Station: WS4FC (op: KG4ECI)
Check-ins: WA4NOT, KK4TUW, NC4AG, KF4EOD, KG4FGC, N4EY, WF4DD, NA4P, K4KEU, KG4JWU, WB9SZL, WA4ZKI, KC4WSK, WK4CW, KD4JZZ, N8UOH, WB4QCM, KE4ZFN.
Topics: WK4CW gave an after-action report from today's OEM drill.
Training: Link: <www.publicsafetytools.info>
Net times: 20:30 - 20:59.

ARES Net Report for 05Dec2013

Net Control Station: WS4FC (op: KG4ECI)
Check-ins: WA4NOT, NC4AG, WB4QCM, NC4RG, KG4FGC, WF4DD, KF4EOD, KG4JWU, K4KEU, WB9SZL, NA4P, KE4ZFN, WA4ZKI, KC4WSK, KJ4ENM, KK4TUX, WK4CW.
Topics: Office of Emergency Management drill; S.E.T. update.
Training: None.
Net times: 20:30 - 20:59.

ARES Net Report for 14Nov2013

Net Control Station: WS4FC (op: KG4FGC)
Check-ins: WA4NOT, KG4ECI, NC4AG, WB4QCM, K4KEU, KF4EOD, WF4DD, WA4ZKI, KC4WSK, WK4CW, AF4XC, KJ4ENM, KG4JWU.
Topics: S.E.T. scheduled for December.
Training: None.
Net times: 20:30 - 21:00

ARES Net Report for 14Nov2013

Net Control Station: WS4FC (op: KG4ECI)
Check-ins: WA4NOT, NC4AG, KK4PKO, WB9SZL, WA4ZKI, AF4XC, KC4WSK, KG4FGC, WF4DD, KJ4ENM, KF4EOD, N4EY, K14RBB.
Topics: Hams deployed in Colorado floods (from QST).

Training: None.
Net times: 20:30 - 20:57

First Fest
David Shoaf
KC4X
Hamfest Coordinator 2014

On Saturday January 11th the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club held it's "First Fest" at Summit School in Winston-Salem, NC.

In spite of the prediction and manifestation of very heavy rain, 121 plus hams and others braved the weather to mingle, shop, tell stories, and talk about what is new in the world of ham radio as well as other "technical" endeavors. Simply put, it rained like crazy, thundered, lightnined, and we had a blast.

Thanks to everyone who was prepared to stand in the rain and take tickets, direct traffic, and talk individuals into the hamfest site. YOU are all the reason ham radio is still popular after 100 years. Your willingness to "show up" and to pass your skills, knowledge, and unused equipment on to others to "keep the light burning".

This was a great event and one of the best for me personally.

Our next hamfest is scheduled for June 7th and I have already heard some good ideas floating around for that event. Lets keep it in mind and any suggestions you have to make this event better, please do not keep it to yourself. Everyone and their ideas are important so please contribute by speaking up.

Arduino Presentation Links
Bob Gusek, NC4RG

Here are some links to go along with my presentation from the January meeting for those of you who didn't catch them all.

Arduino Main Site - <http://arduino.cc>
Great tutorials and the official location to download the IDE (integrated development environment, what you use to write programs for Arduino) from

Adafruit - <http://www.adafruit.com>
Store and great information on accessories for Arduino and other electronics projects. They have great prices and excellent tutorials for each item they sell. You can find a link to a tutorial on the same page where you find the items descriptions.

Sparkfun - <http://www.sparkfun.com>
Another good store for buying components and shields that you can use with Arduinos

Arduino Companion - Application for the iPhone and iPad that has a wealth of information for programming and pinouts for the various Arduino boards. It might be available on other mobile platforms as well.

Also if you have any questions please feel free to contact me at nc4rg@yandex.com



Forsyth Amateur Radio Club, Inc is a non-profit (IRS 501(c)3) North Carolina corporation for the promotion of Amateur Radio, and for the education and training of hams and the general public primarily in Forsyth County, North Carolina.

FARC was originally incorporated as the Winston-Salem Radio Club on December 31, 1930 and has been in operation ever since. We currently maintain a state-of-the-art ham station in the basement of the Red Cross, 690 Coliseum Dr., Winston-Salem, NC and also maintain two 2-meter repeaters, 146.64 (100 Hz tone) and 145.47 (100 Hz tone) & 444.275 (100 Hz tone).

FARC has a general membership meeting with a program on the 2nd Monday of every month at the Red Cross building, 690 Coliseum Drive in Winston-Salem.

The club conducts its main business meeting (sometimes called the Board Meeting) on the 3rd Monday generally at the same location. This is where most of the club's business is conducted and all attending members have a vote. All club members are strongly encouraged to attend the business meeting. For more information about FARC mail us at FARC, Inc., PO Box 11361, Winston-Salem, NC, 27116; call 336-245-5740; or visit our web site at www.w4nc.com. Club email is to info@w4nc.com.

Officers for 2013 are: President: Tim King AG4RZ

Vice-President: Jerry Minor K4GW

Secretary: Don Edwards WS4NC

Treasurer: Henry Heidtmann W2DZO

Newsletter Editor: Bob Gusek, NC4RG

To join our list server send a blank email to w4nc-subscribe@egroups.com

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We trade newsletters with other clubs, and many local clubs are on our mailing list. If your club has a newsletter and would like to trade please send us a copy

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